

- 1        1. A basketball goal assembly comprising:  
2              a pole having a first end and a second end disposed above the first end;  
3              a goal coupled to the second end and suspended over a playing surface;  
4              a base plate coupled to the first end to support the pole, the base plate having a front  
5              side and a rear side;  
6              a plurality of front base supports disposed underneath the front side of the base plate  
7              to support the base plate, wherein adjacent front base supports are separated by a front span  
8              of the base plate;  
9              a plurality of rear base supports disposed underneath the rear side of the base plate  
10             to support the base plate, wherein adjacent rear base supports are separated by a rear span of  
11             the base plate; and  
12             wherein a length of the front span is shorter than a length of the rear span.  
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14        2. The basketball goal assembly of claim 1, wherein each of a plurality of the front  
15             and rear base supports comprises a nut threaded onto a corresponding retaining member  
16             anchored within an anchoring block such that the nut is vertically adjustable along the  
17             retaining member, each retaining member extending through a corresponding hole in the base  
18             plate.  
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20        3. The basketball goal assembly of claim 2, wherein the front base supports and the  
21             rear base supports each comprise two nuts, each of which is threaded onto a corresponding  
22             retaining member, wherein the nuts of the front and rear base supports are arranged in a  
23             substantially rectangular configuration.

1           4. The basketball goal assembly of claim 3, wherein the front base supports further  
2 comprise an intermediate support member positioned between the two nuts of the front base  
3 supports, between the holes of the front side of the base.

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5           5. The basketball goal assembly of claim 4, wherein the intermediate support  
6 member comprises a bolt threadably retained by a nut coupler anchored within the anchoring  
7 block such that the bolt is vertically movable with respect to the nut coupler to abut the base  
8 plate.

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10          6. The basketball goal assembly of claim 2, wherein the front base supports and the  
11 rear base supports each comprise two nuts, each of which is threaded onto a corresponding  
12 retaining member, wherein the nuts of the front and rear base supports are arranged in a  
13 substantially trapezoidal configuration.

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15          7. The basketball goal assembly of claim 6, wherein the support base has a  
16 trapezoidal shape aligned with the trapezoidal configuration of the nuts of the front and rear  
17 base supports.

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19          8. The basketball goal assembly of claim 2, wherein at least one of the holes of the  
20 base plate is elongated to form a slot with a length selected to permit pivotal motion of the  
21 base plate such that the retaining members are inserted into the holes without substantial  
22 vertical motion of a portion of the base plate.

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24          9. The basketball goal assembly of claim 1, wherein the first end of the pole is  
25 disposed nearer the front side of the base plate than the rear side.

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1           10. The basketball goal assembly of claim 9, further comprising a plurality of  
2 gussets affixed to the pole and the support base, the gussets extending rearward from the pole  
3 to stiffen the rear span.  
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1           15. The mounting assembly of claim 14, wherein the base plate further comprises  
2 four holes, each of which is configured to receive one of the retaining members, wherein the  
3 holes are disposed in a substantially rectangular configuration.

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5           16. The mounting assembly of claim 11, wherein the intermediate support member  
6 comprises an expandable nut configured to be inserted underneath the front side of the base  
7 plate and expanded to abut the base plate.

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9           17. The mounting assembly of claim 11, wherein the intermediate support member  
10 comprises at least one shim insertable underneath the front side of the base plate to abut the  
11 base plate.

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13           18. The mounting assembly of claim 11, wherein the intermediate support member  
14 is disposed between the retaining members that pass through the holes of the front side.

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16           19. The mounting assembly of claim 11, wherein the base plate further comprises  
17 a rear side with a plurality of holes formed proximate the rear side, wherein each hole is  
18 configured to receive one of the retaining members, the base plate having a rear span  
19 disposed rearward of the pole, the rear span separating the holes proximate the rear side, the  
20 mounting assembly further comprising a top support member configured to abut a top side  
21 of the base plate proximate the rear span to resist bending of the rear span.

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1           20. A mounting assembly for a basketball goal assembly, the mounting assembly  
2 comprising:

3           a plurality of retaining members;

4           a base plate attached to a pole of the basketball goal assembly, the base plate having  
5 a front side and a rear side, the base plate comprising two front holes formed proximate the  
6 front side and two rear holes formed proximate the rear side, each of the front and rear holes  
7 being configured to permit passage of a retaining member; and

8           wherein a length of a front span between the front holes is shorter than a length of  
9 a rear span between the rear holes.

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11           21. The mounting assembly of claim 20, wherein the holes are arranged in a  
12 substantially trapezoidal configuration.

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14           22. The mounting assembly of claim 21, wherein the support base has a trapezoidal  
15 shape aligned with the trapezoidal configuration of the holes.

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17           23. The mounting assembly of claim 22, wherein the pole is attached to the base  
18 plate nearer the front side of the base plate than the rear side.

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20           24. The mounting assembly of claim 22, further comprising a plurality of  
21 intermediate nuts, each of which threadably engages one of the retaining members to support  
22 the base plate, wherein the intermediate nuts can be individually adjusted to enable two-axis  
23 leveling of the base plate.

1        25. A mounting assembly for a basketball goal assembly, the mounting assembly  
2 comprising:

3              a plurality of retaining members anchored within an anchoring block;  
4              a base plate attached to a pole of the basketball goal assembly, the base plate  
5 comprising a plurality of holes, wherein each of the holes is configured to permit passage of  
6 a retaining member; and

7              wherein at least one of the holes is elongated to form a slot with a length selected  
8 to permit pivotal motion of the base plate such that the retaining members can be inserted  
9 into the holes without substantial vertical motion of a portion of the base plate.

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11        26. The mounting assembly of claim 25, wherein the holes comprise two front holes  
12 disposed proximate a front side of the base plate and two rear holes disposed proximate a  
13 rear side of the base plate.

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15        27. The mounting assembly of claim 26, wherein each of the front holes is  
16 elongated to form a slot, and wherein each of the rear holes is substantially circular in shape.

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18        28. The mounting assembly of claim 25, further comprising a template disposable  
19 on the anchoring block underneath the base plate, the template having a plurality of holes  
20 through which the retaining members extend.

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22        29. The mounting assembly of claim 28, wherein the holes of the base plate are  
23 positioned such that the portion of the base plate is able to rest on the template during pivotal  
24 motion of the base plate to insert the retaining members into the holes of the base plate.

30. A method for installing a basketball goal assembly through the use of a mounting assembly comprising a plurality of retaining members, a template, an intermediate support, and a base plate having a plurality of holes, the method comprising:

attaching the retaining members to the template;

disposing the intermediate support to protrude upward from the template;

placing the template on an anchoring block such that the retaining members extend into the anchoring block; and

positioning the base plate such that each of the retaining members extends through a corresponding holes in the base plate and the intermediate support is positioned underneath a front side of the base plate.

31. The method of claim 30, wherein the intermediate support is disposed to protrude upward from the template prior to placement of the template on the anchoring block.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein disposing the intermediate support to protrude upward from the template comprises:

inserting a bolt through a hole in the template to reach a nut coupler; and

threadably engaging the bolt in the nut coupler such that the bolt abuts a top side of the template and the nut coupler abuts a bottom side of the template.

33. The method of claim 30, wherein the intermediate support is disposed to protrude upward from the template after positioning of the base plate.

1           34. The method of claim 33, wherein disposing the intermediate support to protrude  
2 upward from the template comprises inserting at least one shim between the template and the  
3 base plate.

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5           35. The method of claim 30, further comprising threadably engaging an  
6 intermediate nut with each of the retaining members, wherein positioning the base plate  
7 comprises resting the base plate on the intermediate nuts.

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9           36. The method of claim 35, further comprising leveling the basketball goal  
10 assembly along two axes by adjusting a height of one or more of the intermediate nuts.

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12           37. The method of claim 30, wherein at least one hole of the base plate is elongated  
13 to form a slot, wherein positioning the base plate comprises:

14           tilting the base plate;

15           moving the base plate over the anchoring block such that one of the retaining  
16 members is disposed within the slot and at least one of the retaining members is not disposed  
17 within its corresponding hole; and

18           pivoting the base into a substantially horizontal position such that each of the  
19 retaining members is disposed within its corresponding hole.

1           38. A method for installing a basketball goal assembly through the use of a  
2 mounting assembly comprising a plurality of retaining members protruding upward from a  
3 anchoring block and a base plate having a plurality of holes, each of which corresponds to  
4 one of the retaining members, wherein at least one of the holes is elongated to form a slot,  
5 the method comprising:

6                 tilting the base plate;

7                 moving the base plate over the anchoring block such that one of the retaining  
8 members is disposed within the slot and at least one of the retaining members is not disposed  
9 within its corresponding hole; and

10                 pivoting the base into a substantially horizontal position such that each of the  
11 retaining members is disposed within its corresponding hole.

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13           39. The method of claim 38, wherein two of the holes of the base plate are  
14 elongated to form slots that are substantially parallel to each other, wherein moving the base  
15 plate over the anchoring block comprises positioning the base plate such that each of the slots  
16 contains one of the retaining members.

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18           40. The method of claim 39, wherein two of the holes of the base plate are  
19 substantially circular in shape, wherein pivoting the base into a substantially horizontal  
20 position comprises pivoting each of the substantially circular holes downward toward a  
21 corresponding retaining member so that the retaining members enter the substantially circular  
22 holes.

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24           41. The method of claim 40, wherein the slots are disposed proximate a front side  
25 of the base plate and the substantially circular holes are disposed proximate a rear side of the  
26 base plate.

1           42. The method of claim 41, further comprising positioning a template on the  
2 anchoring block, the template having a plurality of holes through which the bolt and the  
3 retaining members extend.

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5           43. The method of claim 42, wherein pivoting the base into a substantially  
6 horizontal position comprises resting a portion of the front side of the base plate on the  
7 template during the pivotal motion of the base plate.

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1           11. A mounting assembly for a basketball goal assembly, the mounting assembly  
2 comprising:

3           a plurality of retaining members;

4           a base plate attached to a pole of the basketball goal assembly, the base plate having  
5 a front side, the base plate comprising a plurality of holes formed proximate the front side,  
6 wherein each hole is configured to receive one of the retaining members, the base plate  
7 having a front span disposed forward of the pole, the front span separating the holes; and

8           an intermediate support member configured to abut a bottom side of the base plate  
9 proximate the front span to resist bending of the front span.

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11           12. The mounting assembly of claim 11, wherein the retaining members are  
12 anchored within an anchoring block, the intermediate support member comprising a bolt  
13 threadably retained by a nut coupler anchored within the anchoring block such that the bolt  
14 is vertically movable with respect to the nut coupler to abut the base plate.

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16           13. The mounting assembly of claim 12, further comprising a template disposable  
17 on the anchoring block underneath the base plate, the template having a plurality of holes  
18 through which the bolt and the retaining members extend.

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20           14. The mounting assembly of claim 13, further comprising a plurality of  
21 intermediate nuts, each of which threadably engages one of the retaining members to support  
22 the base plate, wherein the intermediate nuts can be individually adjusted to enable two-axis  
23 leveling of the base plate.

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